

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 205986  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TIMBS:REFRITTS:EVC: TEXT FROM WHITE HOUSE  
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NEA/RA:JVMOMTVILLE  
EA:RBOAKLEY  
S/S-O:TMARTIN

-----094174 150301Z /64  
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 205986

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: US, SN, XF

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL LETTER ON CAMP DAVID SUMMIT

PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO  
PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW ASAP. THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO  
SIGNED ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW. GUIDANCE AND TALKING POINTS  
TO BE USED, IF NECESSARY, WILL BE PROVIDED SEPTEL.

BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER:

I VERY MUCH APPRECIATED MEETING LAST WEEK WITH FOREIGN  
MINISTER RAJARATNAM AND OTHER MEMBERS OF YOUR DELEGATION  
TO THE ASEAN-US MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE IN WASHINGTON. I WAS  
PLEASED TO LEARN OF THE DYNAMISM OF ASEAN AND OF OUR MUTUAL

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 205986

DESIRE FOR CLOSER COOPERATION. IT IS IN THAT SPIRIT THAT  
I WISH TO SHARE WITH YOU SOME THOUGHTS ON THE FORTHCOMING  
MIDDLE EAST MEETING AT CAMP DAVID.

WE ARE GRATIFIED THAT PRIME MINISTER BEGIN AND PRESIDENT  
SADAT HAVE BOTH RESPONDED POSITIVELY TO THE INVITATION  
TO MEET WITH ME NEXT MONTH IN A MAJOR NEW EFFORT TO ESTAB-

LISH A FRAMEWORK FOR A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT. WE  
HAVE PURPOSELY NOT SET A FIXED DURATION FOR THE TALKS,

SCHEDULED TO BEGIN ON SEPTEMBER 6, SO AS TO BE ABLE TO  
ALLOW AS MUCH TIME AS IS NEEDED FOR OUR EFFORTS TO SUCCEED.  
THIS IS AN ENCOURAGING INDICATION OF THE SERIOUSNESS WITH  
WHICH ALL PARTIES ARE APPROACHING THIS MEETING.

I EXTENDED THIS INVITATION BECAUSE I BELIEVE WE HAVE  
REACHED A CRUCIAL POINT IN THE SEARCH FOR PEACE IN THE  
MIDDLE EAST. NINE MONTHS HAVE PASSED SINCE PRESIDENT SADAT  
AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN OPENED SIGNIFICANT NEW POSSIBILI-  
TIES FOR NEGOTIATING WITH THE HISTORIC MEETINGS IN  
JERUSALEM AND IN ISMAILIA. THE SIDES HAVE MADE PROGRESS  
TOWARD RESOLVING SOME OF THE ISSUES THAT DIVIDE THEM AT  
THIS TIME, BUT RECENTLY, AS YOU ARE AWARE, AN IMPASSE WAS  
THREATENED. I AM CONVINCED THAT WE CANNOT AFFORD AN  
IMPASSE, SINCE THE POSITIONS WOULD THEN HARDEN AND THE  
ATMOSPHERE DETERIORATE TO THE POINT WHERE THE PRESENT  
OPPORTUNITY FOR PEACE COULD WELL BECOME ANOTHER OF THE LOST  
OPPORTUNITIES THAT HAVE MARKED THE HISTORY OF THIS TRAGIC  
CONFLICT.

THE OBJECTIVE AT THE CAMP DAVID MEETING WILL REMAIN AS IT  
HAS BEEN DEFINED BY THE TWO SIDES THEMSELVES IN NEGOTIA-  
TIONS THIS YEAR: TO MAKE PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON A  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 205986

FRAMEWORK, BASED ON SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 242, THAT  
WOULD ALLOW STEADY PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON SPECIFIC  
ISSUES, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE AGREED GOAL OF A STABLE,  
JUST AND COMPREHENSIVE PEACE. SUCH AN AGREED FRAMEWORK  
MIGHT HELP TO BRING OTHER PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT INTO THE  
PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

OUR EXPERIENCE IN ATTEMPTING TO FACILITATE AND PROMOTE  
NEGOTIATIONS THIS PAST YEAR HAS DEMONSTRATED THAT IT IS  
IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY NEGOTIATIONS BEYOND A CERTAIN POINT  
ON CRUCIAL ISSUES UNLESS THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT THEMSELVES  
CAN BE ENGAGED IN A DIRECT EXCHANGE. THIS WAS ONE OF THE  
CONSIDERATIONS THAT LED ME TO THE DECISION TO EXTEND  
INVITATIONS TO THE TWO LEADERS TO MEET WITH ME AT CAMP  
DAVID. OUR OBJECTIVE WILL BE TO ACHIEVE AGREEMENTS AT  
THE POLITICAL LEVEL WHICH CAN PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR NEGO-  
TIATORS ON THE KEY ISSUES. I PLAN TO DO EVERYTHING WITHIN  
MY POWER TO HELP PRESIDENT SADAT AND PRIME MINISTER BEGIN  
ACHIEVE THE PROGRESS FOR WHICH WE ARE ALL SEARCHING.

AS WE MOVE INTO THIS CRUCIAL NEW PHASE OF MIDDLE EAST  
NEGOTIATIONS I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU MY REASONS FOR

TAKING THIS STEP AND THOUGHTS ABOUT WHAT WE HOPE TO ACCOM-  
PLISH. I KNOW YOU WILL AGREE WITH MY SENSE OF THE IMPORT-  
ANCE OF THESE TALKS, WHICH HOLD THE PROSPECT OF A MAJOR

STEP FORWARD, DESPITE THE REAL DIFFICULTIES. I HOPE  
THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING AND FULL SUPPORT  
IN THE TASK ON WHICH WE ARE EMBARKING.

WITH MY BEST WISHES,

SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT. CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** PPDC, US, SN, XF, IS, EG  
**To:** SINGAPORE  
**Type:** TE  
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